Girls' entry into the Defence Forces

1806. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Gujarat Government had sent a request for setting up of Institutions on the line of Sainik Schools to impart education and training to girls to facilitate them in their entry in Defence Forces;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(c) the time by which such Institutions/Schools are likely to be set up in the State of Gujarat, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. A letter had been received from Minister of State, Education, Women and Child Welfare, Government of Gujarat, in 1998 requesting for the setting up of a sainik school for girls so that the girls can get an opportunity to join the defence forces.

(b) and (c) The proposal to open sainik schools for girls has not been agreed to as lady officers in the three Services are recruited for performing certain functions and duties which are of specialized and non-combatant nature and hence restricted in scope.

Disappearance of Airforce Plane spares enroute Bangalore from Nizamuddin

1807. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that a consignment containing spare parts of airforce planes have been found missing enroute Bangalore from Nizamuddin;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the culprits involved in the case and the officials who showed laxity in the security related consignment have been booked;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and